

SCAN

Newsletter of the St. Clair Amateur Radio Club
PO Box 94, Belleville, IL 62222

www.scarc.net

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Club Repeaters: 147.120+ / 224.120- / 444.625+

WELCOME

Welcome to the third online edition of SCAN. If you are still receiving your SCAN newsletter via postal mail and would rather receive it via e-mail, just send a quick email to newsletter@scarc.net and place a short note asking to receive your SCAN online and we'll take care of the rest. You may catch up on old editions of SCAN by simply visiting our website at www.scarc.net.

HAMFESTS

28 January 2006 – Winterfest 2006 located at the Gateway Center in Collinsville, IL and is sponsored by the St. Louis & Suburban Radio Club. Visit <http://www.slsr.org> or call Jim Glasscock, W0FF at (636) 584-8888 for more information.

CONTEST CALENDAR

Jan 21-23 – ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes
Feb 13-17 – School Club Roundup
Feb 18-19 – ARRL Int. DX Contest (CW)
Mar 4-5 – ARRL Int. DX Contest (Phone)

CLUB PROJECTS

Currently, members of the club are working on two projects. The first project is the addition of a remote receiver for the VHF repeater that is aimed at improving reception of users who are below the bluff to the west. There is currently a test site selected at a residence in the Signal Hill section of West Belleville where the receive antenna will be located on top of a 50' tower. The plan is to take the signals heard from the Signal Hill receiver, uplink them to 900 MHz

and re-transmit them to the repeater site where the received signal from the two receivers (Repeater site and the Signal Hill site) will be compared and the better signal will be re-transmitted on the Repeater output. While this plan will not help users below the bluff to hear the repeater output any better, it should certainly help users with lower powered radios or hand-held rigs to be able to get into the repeater better from West Belleville and areas below the bluff. The 2m Receiver and two 900 MHz radios have been purchased and are being interfaced to make the project happen as soon as possible. When this project is complete, users of the VHF Repeater will not have to make any changes to their rigs to start taking advantages of the increased receive capabilities of the system.

The Second project that club members are working on is the addition of IRLP (Internet Radio Linking Project) to the UHF repeater. IRLP is similar to EchoLink with the exception that there are no "Computer USERS" on IRLP. IRLP only allows RF links at each end of a connection. Please visit <http://www.irlp.net> for more information and a list of active nodes. When the "EchoIRLP" project is finished, users will be able to access remote nodes on both the EchoLink as well as the IRLP networks. For those of you who are looking to converse with distant stations and are not able to install HF gear, this could be your chance to talk around the world from your HT.

ECHOLINK

The current EchoLink node is still functioning properly. You may hear distant stations calling CQ on our local UHF Repeater.